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**FACSIMILE COVER LETTER**

**To:** EXAMINER – F. PIERRE VANDERVEGT, Ph.D.  
**Firm:** PTO  
**Facsimile No.:** 703-305-7401  
**From:** THOMAS J. KOWALSKI, ESQ.  
**Date:** April 17, 2001  
**Re:** USSN 09/310,685  
FILED: May 4, 1999  
OUR REF: 674525-2001

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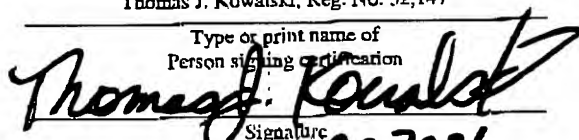
#11/C  
RPATENT  
674525-2001**IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE**

Applicants(s) : Lamb et al.  
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Examiner : F. Pierre Vandervegt, Ph.D  
Art Unit : 1644  
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Signature

17 Apr 2001

Date of Signature

**AMENDMENT AND COMMUNICATION MAKING  
OF RECORD TELEPHONIC DISCUSSION WITH SPE**Assistant Commissioner for Patents  
Washington, D.C. 20231

Dear Sir:

Please amend the application, without prejudice, without admission, without  
surrender of subject matter, and without any intention of creating any estoppel as to equivalent,  
as follows: